

David de Beaufort 1773
5173
PERIODICAL DIVISION



of the Cures effectuated by the Virtues of the
ANTIPUTRID WATER,
*Extracted from M^r. Beaufort's works,
Ancient Professor in Physic, at the University
of Aix, in Provence, & Physician in Ordinary*

To his most Christian Majesty,

LEWIS the FIFTEENTH.

*Intituled the Science of Health, or an insight into
the Laws dictated by Simple Nature, agreeable
to those introduced by Art.*

*Wherein a clear account of the Contagious Diseases
incident to Men & Beast is given, to which is joined
a detail of the most interesting experiences.*

*Extract from Letters and Observations on the good
Effects of the Antiputrid Water of Beaufort, the
Originals of which are deposited at the Secretary's
Office of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris.*

PERIODICAL



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PROPERTIES

OF

Beaufort's Anti-putrid Water.

THIS famous Water was invented by M. Beaufort, Physician in ordinary to the French King, who, for these twenty years past, has used it with the greatest success in the military hospitals of France.

The basis of its composition is a combination of mineral and vegetable acids, which are so united, that the noxious effects of the former are made inoffensive, and, by the ardent spirit extracted from acid fruits by fermentation, the anti-putrid water is rendered anodyne. Various Salts make also a part of its composition, and add to the curative virtues of which it is possessed.

The anti-putrid Water will not suffer any impurities either in the blood, or any other fluid. It causes all heterogeneities in them instantly to subside, and neutralizes the extraneous salts, by changing their configuration without impairing in the least the essence and properties of the fluids.

Most diseases incident to the human body are known to originate in the stomach, and to proceed from Bile, the productive cause of the alkaly, and tart salts dispersed among the humours. This theory explains how and by what manner of operation the powerful acid, contained in the anti-putrid Water, opposes the alkaly and the tartness of the salts, and how it keeps off those diseases arising therefrom, and finally cures them.

Obstructions in
the Liver.

This Water does never coagulate. It is of an incisive and penetrating nature, and destroys the most inveterate obstructions.

Consumption,
phthific, ma-
rasm, atrophy,
and all impuri-
ties of the blood.

The consumption, the phthific, marasm, atrophy, and all diseases that proceed from an impoverished blood, are effectually cured by the use of this Water.*

Scurvy.

It is the only true specific against that most terrible disease the Scurvy.

Wounds.

Wounds (which generally prove hard to cure in England, on account of the blood being of a gross and scorbutic nature,) are cured by the same means as above.

Whites and
Gonorrhœas.

The Fluor Albus and Gonorrhœas are entirely removed by drinking the Water to the quantity of two pints a day for three weeks together.

Apoplectic Fits.

Apoplectic Fits, which are now so frequent, are prevented by the use of two glasses of the Water every day before breakfast.

Gout.

The Gout insensibly gives way by a constant use of this water both fasting and at meals. The attacks become less frequent, and its excruciating pains are immediately assuaged, by applying to the affected part linen dipped in the anti-putrid Water, not warmed, but such as it is prepared for common drink, as shall be directed hereunder.

It is a prevalent though an erroneous opinion, that, as no real specific has heretofore been discovered against the Gout, (which, for that reason only, is pronounced incurable,) no attempt should be made towards a cure for fear of putting it in motion, (*as the vulgar say,*) and fixing it in some part of the body where it could prove dangerous. But, if we consider that the Gout proceeds

* Darbenot, an English physician of great merit, and the celebrated Boerhaave, agree in opinion, that the Acids are serviceable in curing diseases of the lungs.

from a thickened lymph, which is obstructed in the arteries by sharp and heating salts, it will be easy to conclude, that the anti-putrid Water, by neutralizing those salts, and cooling the blood, must of course attack the principal cause of the Gout, and consequently that, however wandering and vagrant the gouty matter may be, it is impossible that it should fix itself on any vital part.

What is most difficult in completing a cure of the Gout is, to remove the nodules and ankyloses of the arteries, formed by a gypsous matter; but these are only the effect of the disease, and the cause is removed by the use of the anti-putrid Water. It prevents an increase of the symptoms and ravages of the Gout, as has been proved to a demonstration in a speech delivered in the Royal Academy at Stockholm.

Sea-faring people will keep off the Scurvy by a constant use of two glasses of the anti-putrid Water every day fasting. Foul water unfit for drink is made good again by means of a little proportionable quantity of this Water, and the water-casks shipped for voyages at sea may be prepared before sailing, and preserved from future corruption.

Scurvy at Sea,
and purifying
foul Water.

As to the anti-putrid Water itself, length of time cannot injure it. When it is to be used, it is to be prepared, as hereunder directed, in glass, china, wood, or earthen, vessels, and never in metallic ones. Care must be taken not to let any drop of the pure anti-putrid Water fall upon the garments and linen.

THE WAY TO USE IT.

Mix half a table-spoonful of the anti-putrid Water in a quart bottle of common water to be drank as prescribed, according to the nature and various stages of the disease.

The way of drinking the anti-putrid Water, is, one half pint tumbler of it an hour before breakfast, two glasses holding the same quantity in the course of the day, and another at night going to bed: they will be productive of a good digestion, as well as of a good rest.

Manner of preparing Beaufort's Anti-putrid Water for the dressing of ulcers of a long standing, and any other recent wound whatever.

This preparation is made in gradation, that is, a table spoonful of the Anti-putrid Water at first is to be mixed in a quart bottle of common water, in which mixture the linen or bandages are to be dipped night and morning, and during six days they are to be applied to the ulcers; at the end of that time two table spoonfuls of Beaufort's Water are to be mixed in the same quantity of water, and the use of it, as before, must be continued during a fortnight, at the end of which time the patient must make use of the first preparation as in the first six days' dressing.

When the flesh of the wound is even with the skin, then the dressing with the water must cease, and dry and clean linen may be applied. That only method will effectually cure ulcers that have resisted ten years the application of other medicines; the afflicted must drink till the wound is perfectly closed, to re-establish the purity of the blood, which is generally changed and impoverished by the long standing ulcers. As to the recent and fresh wounds, the simple preparation of one table spoonful to a bottle of water will be sufficient; the diet drink followed as mentioned before; strong bandages being dipped into the mixture, are applied to the affected part, and must be rolled a little tight, as they are not to be changed but once in twenty four hours, and by that means the wound will heal up in a surprising manner.

Although the anti-putrid Water contains such acknowledged properties as have been described, it does not, however, exclude the other means of cure, in the acute diseases especially. Every able, honest physician, surgeon, or apothecary, who knows its virtues, will certainly look on it as the best possible help to his medicines. He will therefore direct and prescribe the use of it, increasing or diminishing the quantity as he shall think fit. It can be safely asserted that Beaufort's Water is a real panacea.

Extract from Letters and Observations on the good Effects of the Anti-putrid Water of Beaufort, the Originals of which are deposited at the Secretary's Office of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris.

CURES MADE IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Cugnet, of No. 4, Stephen-street, Rathbone-place, had, for three months, two scorbutic ulcers in his right leg; the bone, called *tibia*, was rotten. He began, May 11, 1790, using the anti putrid Water both in drink and fomentation. He was completely cured in the space of six months. By a constant use of it for a certain length of time, it dispels most of the diseases incident to the human body, and more especially those that originate in gross humours, and the impurity of the blood; it re-establishes the mass of the blood in its natural purity; it renews the vigour of the body; affords strength to debilitated constitutions, and is so certain a remedy, that the proprietor scruples not to say—No Cure, no Pay.

Mr. Richard, a publican, of Green-street, Leicester-square, had both his legs covered all over with scorbutic ulcers. He began, July 20, 1790, to use Beaufort's Water; and though he occasionally travelled out of the kingdom; and lived in a manner rather unfavorable to a cure, it was, however, completed in six months, and he now enjoys perfect health.

Mr. Binel, perfumer, No. 2, Queen-street, Golden-square, 81 years old, had, for five years, a sort of scab over his arms and legs, which was occasioned by the scurvy. His head was considerably weakened, and his strength quite spent. He began to take the anti-putrid Water in the year 1790, and, by the use of it for six months, he was completely cured, and, in spite of his great age, he is perfectly well.

Mrs. Wilfon, of No. 20, Swallow-street, Piccadilly, was in the last stage of a consumption; her voice quite gone. She had been confined to her bed for many weeks, and there waited for death, being unwilling to take any remedies. As advised, she drank Beaufort's water, and in less than a fortnight she was able to get out of her bed, and after a second fortnight she began to resume her usual course of household affairs. This was about the beginning of June 1790, and by daily walking in the fields about town, she was happily restored to a most perfect state of health.

This cure is more remarkable, as the consumption is rather hereditary in Mrs. Wilfon's family. Her mother and five sisters died of it.

The virtues of the anti-putrid Water would have been propagated through the whole world, for the benefit of mankind at large, had not Mr. Beaufort received express orders from Lewis the Fifteenth and government, not to send any quantity whatever to any other parts than the French Colonies, in the east and west, and the hospitals of France. But since Mr. Beaufort has met with no impediment in sending his anti-putrid Water to any part of the globe, has, for the benefit of those of the British Nation who are afflicted with that distressing disorder the Scurvy, appointed agents in London, that his Water might attain, in Great Britain, the reputation it has already acquired for several years past in France.

FOREIGN CURES.

West Indies: Mr. Garnier de la Chevrerie, physician to the King, inspector in the hospitals of the Leeward Islands, wrote, in 1763, to the Duke of Choiseul, then minister of the marine, attesting the efficacy of this remedy in inflammatory scorbutic diseases, consumption, and the dropsy; and he assures him that 10,000 people's lives might be

inflammatory
diseases, scurvy,
consumption, &
dropsy.

preserved every year, in the colonies, more than the usual number. Signed, Garnier de la Chevrerie.

Mr. de Vaujours, physician to the King in the French colony of Grenada for thirty years past, attests that he used the Water of Beaufort, both in military hospitals and in families, with the greatest success, in all inflammatory and scorbutic cases. He adds that most of the captains and marchant-ships have, by the same means, preserved the Water casks free from corruption, that their crews have enjoined a better state of health by drinking it. Signed, de Vaujours.

West Indies.
Inflammatory
scurvy,
Water preserved
against corrup-
tion

Count d'Ennery, lieutenant-general of the King's armies, governor of Martinique, being invited by his physicians to leave the colony and go to France on account of the scurvy, a slow fever, and a dropfy, was cured, by the anti-putrid Water, in the palace of his Highness the Duke of Orleans. Signed, Count d'Ennery.

West Indies.
scurvy, fever,
and dropfy.

President Peynier, intendant of Martinique, attests that all those, inhabiting his department, who made use of Beaufort's Water, have reaped the same benefit from it as Count d'Ennery. Signed, le President Peynier.

Mr. de Blois, an inhabitant of St. Domingo, had, for more than twelve years, a scorbutic affection, and a large tetter from the waist downward, which had resisted all sorts of remedies. He was advised to go to France, when, during the passage at sea, a gentleman gave him a half quart bottle of Mr. Beaufort's Water, by the use of which the scurvy and the tetter had almost entirely subsided when he landed in France, and, by using the Water a little longer, he was completely cured. Signed, de Blois.

Scurvy-tetters.

Mr. le Blanc, supercargo of the East-India merchant-ship, Telemachus, writes from the Cape of Good Hope, that, after a voyage of four months and a half, the water contained in the casks, and prepared with

Water preserved
against corrup-
tion.

Beaufort's Water, was found perfectly clear and good, and that not one person had any illness on board. Signed, Le Blanc.

malignant scor-
butic fever.

Mr. Seron, surgeon-major to the East-India Company at Chandernagore, attests, that a man was cured there by means of Beaufort's Water, of a malignant scorbutic fever, under the inspection of Chevalier de Bréaux, an officer in that department. Signed, Seron.

Inflammatory
fever.

Mr. Panton, captain of one of his Majesty's ships, attests that he cured an inflammatory fever of the worst kind.

Chevalier Bréaux (above named) attests, that he gave to the governors of the East-India Company's hospitals, a certain quantity of bottles of the anti-putrid Water, to have the virtues ascribed to it fairly tried; that the success of it, in many inveterate diseases, was complete. Signed, Le Chevalier de Bréaux.

Jaundice and
scurvy.

Chevalier de Vernon, a navy officer, attests, that, in his excursions at sea, he has observed the virtues of the anti-putrid Water in the cure of the jaundice and scurvy. Signed, Chevalier de Vernon.

Ditto & dropsy.

Mr. Rollet, surgeon-major to the East-India Company, had a jaundice called *ictère*, with a swelling of the liver, dropsy, and scurvy. He was given over by the physicians. The Marquis d'Erouville recommended him to Mr. de Beaufort, who cured him by his anti-putrid Water. The governors of the Company expressed their satisfaction, and Count d'Erouville and Mr. Mery d'Arcy were charged to obtain instructions from him concerning the virtues and use of his Water, which they wished to recommend in the Indies and for the sea. Signed, Rollet.

Consumption,
marasim, atrophy.

The Sieur Groupillot, alias Lafontaine, valet-de-chambre to the Abbé Bragelongue, was in the last stage of a consumption, with marasim and atrophy; Mr. Payen, his physician, and Mr. de la Faye, his surgeon, had pro-

nounced him in a desperate condition. By using the anti-putrid Water, after twenty-four hours he vomited a quantity of purulent matter, and was cured in the space of one month : the cure was universally known in Paris. Signed, Groupillot.

The Marchioness de Pompignan was in a state of atro- Atrophy and
phy and marasm. She brought up purulent matter, and marasm.
her three physicians were of opinion she was past recovery. By means of the anti-putrid Water she was radically cured. The medical *Encyclopedie*, page 490, mentions this cure with due praise. Signed, Marchioness de Pompignan.

Countess Stainville, Marquis d'Estlade, Marquis de St. Herem, Mr. de la Vieuville, the President de Rieux, Madam de Vichy, Marquis du Haley, and Marquis de Nagu, have all of them been cured by the anti-putrid Water, although they were in a state of consumption. Signed, de la Faye, professor in the college of surgeons, at St. Come, in Paris.

Mademoiselle Monins, sister to the secretary of the commandments to his Highness Prince de Conti, was given over by her physicians. She was cured by the anti-putrid Water. Signed, Monins de Mornay.

M. de Balainvilliers, intendant of Auvergne, attests, Various diseases
that he has known many persons, in his generality, who were cured of various diseases by means of Beaufort's Water. Signed, Balainvilliers.

Chevalier de la Motte, commander for the King at Blaye, was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and had all the frightful symptoms that attend it. He drank Beaufort's Water, and wrote, on June 2, 1772, that the symptoms were removed and his health nearly restored. Signed, De la Motte.

Madam de Vichy had an ulcer in the lungs, and a Ulcer in the
flow fever, accompanied with falling away and loathing lungs and flow
of food. She was radically cured, to the great surprize fever.

of all the inhabitants of la Ferté-Aleps, and especially of Mr. Richard, who attended her, Signed, le Pecheur de Vichy, and Richard, ancient surgeon aid-major to the King's armies.

**Malignant fever
and gangrene.**

James-Nery, footman to Count du Hautoy, was taken ill, at Fontainebleau, with a malignant fever, and many parts of his body were gangrened, when Mr. de Beaufort was applied to. He found the patient in a delirium, and the physician and surgeon who attended him had declared he was past recovery. He made him swallow the anti-putrid Water, and, by using it for a fortnight, he was able to be removed to Paris, where his cure was soon completed. Signed, Nery.

**Royal Navy,
Toulon.**

Mr. Faure de Rouffieux, physician to the navy at Toulon, was ordered, by Mr. de Bompart, commandant of that port, to go to the Lazaret, to see the sailors of the Topaze, who were seized with a malignant fever to the number of 80.

They were all seized with a malignant fever of the worst kind, so prevalent in Turkey. They were delirious; their faces, tongues, and teeth, were black; their eyes fixed and aghast; and their bodies were all over covered with red pimples: many had livid and blackish spots. All of them were perfectly cured except one, who had been for many years before under a complication of other diseases.

Mr. de Taillade, captain of a frigate, who had been for twelve days deprived of his senses with an inflammation in the lower belly, and a hiccough, was also radically cured by the use of the anti-putrid Water. The above was attested by Mr. Berard, commissary of the Navy at Toulon.

**Dropfy, fever,
convulsive fits,
yellow jaundice,
small-pox.**

Madam Simonnot, of Chalons-sur-Saone, was ill with the dropfy, fever, convulsive fits, yellow jaundice, and small pox of the worst confluent kind. She had scarcely begun to use the anti-putrid Water when all the dangerous symptoms subsided. She is now nearly in a

perfect state of health, thanks to your valuable remedy.
Signed, Deloisy, M. D. at Chalons.

On February the 2d, 1773, Madam de Rieux, 77 years old, was seized with a malignant fever, attended with delirium; she was cured in a few days, to the great surprise of her physicians and of the public at large. Signed, Boulainviller de Rieux, Marquis de Boulainviller, provost of Paris.

On April the 2d, in the same year, Mr. Daguin, a grocer in the street de la Juiverie, was nearly expiring, and had been given over by his physician. In six days he was cured by de Beaufort's Water. Signed, Abbé Restorel, grand vicaire to his Eminence Cardinal de Luynes.

Marquis de Puysegur, lieutenant-general of the King's armies, attests, that he had been liable, for thirty years past, to obstructions in the liver, pains in the stomach, indigestions, head-aches, and spasmodic affections, and he was cured by the anti-putrid Water. Signed, le Marquis de Puysegur.

Mr. le Brun, surgeon-major to the artillery, observes, in a letter of July 15, 1775, dated at the Cape, that the anti-putrid Water gets reputation daily in the colony, and that this reputation will be lasting, as it is grounded on the most surprizing cures. Signed, le Brun.

Mr. Ronceney, officer of invalids, had been, for three years together, confined to his bed with forty-two scorbutic ulcers, eight of which were as large as the palm of the hand: he was completely cured in fifty days, in 1779, by the use of the anti-putrid Water. Signed, de Ronceney.

Mr. Feret, rector of St. Benoit, near Lisieux, wrote to Mr. Beaufort, on November 28, 1782, that his father, 74 years old, had, for 25 years, in his left leg, an ulcer 8 inches long, 3 inches broad, and 18 lines deep,

that had resisted all attempts to cure it; and that it was cured by forty days use of the anti-putrid Water. Signed, Feret, rector.

**Wounds from
being stabbed.**

Mr. Berard, barrister at law, was attacked in 1785; he had been stabbed in thirty-two parts of his body, and had, on his head, a wound five inches deep, which discovered the pericranium. By means of linen dipped in the anti-putrid Water and washing the wounds with it, and by drinking of the same, he was completely cured in the course of a few days.

N. B. Experience has proved that the pains of cancers in the breast are assuaged by applying to the part linen dipped in the anti-putrid-Water, and the progress of the disease effectually prevented.

Scurvy.

Messrs. Michel and Martial, monks of the order of charity, attest, that, in 1787, 100 persons had been completely cured of the scurvy, in the hospitals of Granville in Normandy, by using the anti-putrid Water.

**Epidemic disease
at St. Domingo.**

Father Usebe Boyer, procurator of the same order in the hospital of charity at Paris, has declared to Marshal de Castries, then minister of the marine department, that in the year 1777, whilst he was superior at the hospital of the Cape in St. Domingo, there raged a terrible epidemical disease that brought successively in the hospital above 600 sick people, two thirds of which number died by it. And he adds, that the three companies of artillery, of 100 men each, having been taken ill, some time after, with the same disease, were all of them radically cured in the barracks, by Mr. le Brun, their surgeon major, by using the anti-putrid Water. Signed, Usebe Boyer.

On the 22d of February, 1790, the Abbé de Couanon, grand vicaire to the Bishop of Limoges, attested, before the committee of health of the National Assembly, that, from the many experiments, made in the hospital at Limoges, of the virtues and properties of Beaufort's water, it was pronounced, by the physician and superior

of the hospital, to be a most valuable remedy in most diseases, and that, by using it, there is a saving of above three parts of the usual expence.

R E M A R K S

On Beaufort's Anti-putrid Water, and the Danger of using Counterfeits of it.

WE think it cannot be amiss to give a general idea of the Specific we offer to the Public. It is the result of many years study, and long expensive experiments. Boerhaave, Hoffmann, and other celebrated physicians, by their important discoveries of the nature and properties of acid mineral salts, have prepared the discovery of the Anti-putrid Water, and enabled its inventor to give it the degree of perfection it has now attained. It has long been devoutly wished that such a preparation as this might be found, as it was most likely to be of the greatest advantage and service both to men and the brute creation. It consists in extracting from the vitriolic salts some intermediaries with which those acid salts have more affinity, in diminishing the strength of the mineral and vegetable acids, neutralizing them by half, and diminishing their sharpness; by means of which process is obtained a moderate softened acid, which can be safely used at all times, and plentifully, not only without any danger of bad consequences even to the weakest constitutions, but which, from repeated experiments, is a valuable specific in most of the diseases incident to the human body.

The success the Anti-putrid Water has had for twenty years past, and the signal protection with which the French government honoured the inventor, has been the cause of many attempts to impose on the Public by counterfeiting it. Impudent quacks have had the effrontery to sell, under the name of this specific, spurious inventions of their own, which have no other recommendation but a certain degree of acidity, which any the most ignorant of the science of chemistry can easily give to all sorts of fluids. Great knowledge is not requisite to teach such impostors (what the inventor himself has made public) that vitriol is in a manner one of the chief ingredients in the composition of his Anti-putrid Water. But it is from the effects of its great merits that the dangerous mixture set in opposition to it can be ascertained. Let the Public be warned against counterfeits, and beware of imposition in a matter of such concern to their health; since there are men who will not scruple, for the sake of emolument, to risk the lives of their fellow creatures, and turn against their own species the benefit of a discovery, which ought to entitle its author to the name of a friend to mankind.

KNOW, all Men, by these Presents, that, on the twentieth of April, in the thirty-first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord 1791, John Francis Noel de Valency, of Queen street, Golden-square, in the city and liberty of Westminster, and in the county of Middlesex, Gent. made oath, that, by an instrument made before Mr. Dufouleur, notary royal and public in Paris, and his brother notary, on the third day of March, 1790, signed and sealed by the said notaries, and duly legalized by the Marquis de Boulainvillier, provost of the city provostship and viscounty of Paris, on the 4th of the said month and year hereunto annexed, Mr. Pascal Faure de Beaufort, professor of physick and physician in ordinary to the French king, hath given over, ceded, and transferred to M. Nicolas Audirac, Francis Mestre, and to him the said John Francis Noel, jointly, for fifteen years together, from the above-mentioned date, the right and faculty exclusively to sell and distribute a composition, invented by the said Mr. Faure de Beaufort, under the name of Anti-putrid Water, and to set up houses and shops for the sale of the same in Great Britain and Ireland, Holland, Spain, Turkey, Egypt, and all other kingdoms and parts of Europe, (the city of Paris excepted) where they shall think fit to sell the same. And that the said Mr. Faure de Beaufort hath, by the above-mentioned instrument, bound himself to supply him, the said ap-pearer and his copartners, with twenty thousand bottles of his Anti-putrid Water for every year of the said fifteen years expressed in the instrument.

As also the said appearer made oath, that, by another instrument made before the said notaries on the same day and year aforesaid, and also hereunto annexed, the said Francis Mestre and Nicolas Audirac have empowered him, the said appearer, for them, and in their names, and for himself, jointly, to sell and distribute the anti-putrid water of the said Mr. Faure de Beaufort, and to set up houses and shops for the sale of the said water in the different kingdoms and parts of Europe where he shall

think fit, and to treat with any person he may please to appoint and fix upon to sell the same under his direction and by his orders. IN WITNESS whereof he, the said appearer, hath to these presents set his hand and seal, on the day and year aforesaid.

J. N. DE VALENCY.
J. LE MOUROU.

Sworn before me, at the Guildhall, London, the day and year above written, } J. BOYDELL, Mayor.

Beaufort's Anti-putrid Water is sold in half-pint bottles by Mr. LE MOUROU, No. 14, Maddox Street, Hanover Square; the only person who has authority from Mr. Beaufort to sell it, as he can prove if required. Every bottle (Price 1l. 1s. duty included) has a label on it with these words in English: "*Essence of the Anti-putrid, mineral, vegetable, acid, Water de Beaufort,*" &c. with the crest of Mr. de Beaufort, and is sealed with the seal of the vender both on the label and on the cork.

They will send to any part of Great Britain and Ireland any number of bottles, on applying to them by letter (post paid) as above.

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